United Nations E/ICEF/2018/P/L.23

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
31 July 2018

Original: English

For decision

United Nations Children's Fund
Executive Board
Second regular session 2018
12–14 September 2018
Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note informs the Executive Board of the two-month extension of the country programme for Niger and the first one-year extension of the country programme for Timor-Leste, both approved by the Executive Director.

The note further presents the reasons for the proposed one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Liberia, following previous one-year extensions. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the two-month extension of the country programme for Niger and the first one-year extension of the country programme for Timor-Leste, which were approved by the Executive Director and are presented in table 1;

2. *Approves* the one-year extensions of the country programmes for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Liberia, following previous one-year extensions, as presented in table 2.

* E/ICEF/2018/19.
Note: The present document was processed in its entirety by UNICEF.

18-12943 (E) 080818

Please recycle

Table 1
First extensions of one year (or less) of ongoing country programmes approved by the Executive Director

UNICEF-supported country programme	*Original programme period*	*Year/period approved for extension*	*Reasons for the extension*
Niger	2014–2018	February 2019 *(two-month extension)*	– To align with the country's new national development plan based on which the United Nations country team in Niger decided to synchronize the time frame of the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2019–2021. – To enable the UNICEF country programme to synchronize with the time frame of the new UNDAF 2019–2021.
Timor-Leste	2015–2019	2020 *(one-year extension)*	– To allow for alignment and coherence with the extension of the UNDAF through 2020, which has been approved by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and endorsed by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) Asia-Pacific, and with the extension of the country programme documents (CPDs) of the other UNSDG agencies in Timor-Leste.

Table 2
Extensions of ongoing country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

UNICEF-supported country programme	*Original programme period, including previous extensions*	*Year/period approved for extension*	*Reasons for the extension*
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2013–2018 (previously extended to 2018)	2019 *(one-year extension)*	– The Democratic Republic of the Congo is in a period of political transition, with presidential elections scheduled for 23 December 2018. – A one-year extension will allow UNICEF and the United Nations system to work with the new government in 2019, elaborating a five-year UNDAF and a new Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo/UNICEF country programme of cooperation. – The extension will provide an opportunity to ensure greater alignment of country programme results with the UNICEF Regional Office for West and Central Africa 'Key Results for Children' and the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, by building on the country office's efforts since 2017 to improve effective coverage of five key interventions for children.
Liberia	2013–2018 (previously extended to 2018)	2019 *(one-year extension)*	– The extension will enable UNICEF to align its support with the Government's newly developed national development plan, which is expected to be ready by mid-2018. – The extension will enable UNICEF to align with the extension of the present UNDAF to end-2019, which has been approved by the Regional UNSDG. – With the UNDAF extension until 2019, the new UNDAF 2020–2024 is scheduled to be ready by the end of 2018 and UNICEF Liberia will be submitting a CPD covering 2020–2024 to the annual session of the Executive Board in June 2019.